

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A bracing arrangement with overload protection comprising:

[[-]] a first element to be braced-(1),

[[-]] a second element to be braced-(2) ~~which is to be braced~~ against the first element (1) and

[[-]] a bracing bolt (3) ~~for~~ bracing the first and second elements, characterized by

[[-]] a sleeve-(4), which is braced against the second element to be braced-(2) with the bracing bolt (3) and which goes through the first element to be braced-(1), and

[[-]] a sleeve tensioning device-(5), which engages the sleeve-(4) and braces the first element to be braced (1) against the second element to be braced (2),

[[-]] whereby the sleeve (4) is released to a pre-specified extent (4f') by means of the sleeve tensioning device (5) and

[[-]] whereby exceeding the operating force that ~~keep~~ separates the first and second elements (1, 2) ~~separate~~ from each other beyond a an operating force threshold leads to relaxation of the sleeve-(4) relative to the bracing by the bracing bolt-(3) and to the consequential breaking of the bracing bolt-(3).

2. (Currently amended) The bracing arrangement according to claim 1, in which the bracing bolt (3) is strained up to a pre-specified extent ~~-(3f)~~ within its range up to the yielding point.

3. (Currently amended) The bracing arrangement according to claim 1 ~~or 2~~, in which the bracing bolt (3) is more elastic than the sleeve-(4).

4. (Currently amended) The bracing arrangement according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the sleeve (4) is more elastic than the first element to be braced-(1).

5. (Currently amended) The bracing arrangement according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the bracing bolt-(3) is a stud (3) with a screw thread (3a) for screwing it into ~~the~~ a bore with an internal thread (2a) of the second element to be braced-(2).

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6. (Currently amended) The bracing arrangement according to ~~one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1, in which the sleeve (4) has an external screw thread (4b) for screwing onto the sleeve tensioning element(5) with an internal thread-(5a).

7. (Currently amended) A method ~~Method~~ for bracing ~~both the~~ at least two elements to be braced ~~-(1, 2)-~~ with the help of a bracing bolt-(3), a sleeve (4) and a sleeve tensioning device-(5), ~~in particular with a bracing arrangement according to one of the preceding claims, involving the steps comprising:~~

[[-]] bracing of the sleeve (4) by means of the bracing bolt (3) against the second element to be braced-(2), whereby the bracing bolt (3) compresses the sleeve-(4),

[[-]] bracing of the first element to be braced (1) on the second element to be braced (2) ~~through bracing~~ with the sleeve tensioning device-(5), whereby the sleeve tensioning device (5) is braced with engagement with the sleeve(4) projecting through the first element (1) to be braced, in such a manner that the sleeve (4) is relaxed relative to the preceding compression up to a pre-specified extent of release (4f'),

[[-]] ~~so that~~ wherein an operating force, which moves the first and the second elements (1, 2) to be braced in mutually opposite directions, leads, above a pre-specified threshold value, to a complete release of the sleeve (4) and to the breaking of the bracing bolt-(3).

8. (Currently amended) The bracing bolt (3) and sleeve (4) as described above in conjunction with the ~~for use in a bracing arrangement according to one of the claims 1-5 claim 1 or in connection with the method according to claim 6, whereby~~ wherein the bracing bolt (3) is made of a more elastic material than the sleeve-(4).

9. (Currently amended) The bracing ~~Bracing~~ bolt (3) and sleeve (4) according to claim 8, whereby a force, which stretches the bracing bolt (3) to a pre-specified extent, compresses the sleeve (4) in the opposite direction to a lesser extent.